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with the alkali metal, dominating over reaction between main components of the carrier and the alkali metal.

2. (Amended) A catalyst body according to Claim 1, wherein the substance capable of reacting with the alkali metal, dominating over the reaction between the main components of the carrier and the alkali metal is at least one member selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Si, P, S, Cl, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Ga, Ge, As, Se, Br, Zr, Mo, Sn, Sb, I and W.

3. (Amended) A catalyst body according to Claim 1, wherein the catalyst layer further contains at least one member of the noble metals selected from the group consisting of Pt, Pd and Rh.

4. (Amended) A catalyst body according to Claim 1, wherein the substance capable of reacting with the alkali metal, dominating over the reaction between the main components of the carrier and the alkali metal is contained in the carrier.

5. (Amended) A catalyst body according to Claim 1, wherein the substance capable of reacting with the alkali metal, dominating over the reaction between the main components of the carrier and the alkali metal is contained in the catalyst layer.

6. (Amended) A catalyst body according to Claim 1, wherein a layer of the substance capable of reacting with the alkali metal, dominating over the reaction between the main component of the carrier and the alkali metal is formed between the carrier and the catalyst layer.